Mr. Chaplin will call to discuss this with you.



Declaration Case: 170: 52288 Date E.O.: N/A Tags: PFOR, MINT, SCPN, AR, US To: Secstate WashDC Immediate Subject: AP Story on Amhassador's meeting with President For ARMSCA - Rondon Ref: Rondon/Chaplin telcon 9/23/7( 1. Embassy received inquiries from most press services in RA about meeting with president. Uniform response was that any comment would have to come from President Videla. Afternoon of 9/22 (subsequent to filing if (he) had any comment on , statements attributed to "sources close to Amb Hill", and received another no comment response. 2. AP was sufficiently cooperative to provide information on source which made it possible for Embassy to identify him conclusively. There was one source, not several as story implies, and he was Robert Benjamin Benjamin has long been known to Ambassador frame since latter's appointment to Nexico. Replanin met with Ambassador prior to meeting with Videla. SEXESS Views and statements attributed to Ambassador by Senjamin are incorrect and self-serving. Ambassador is tarticularly offended at implication that mixit buman rights issue raised only is sop to Democratic congressmen. Ambassador's position on this issue is on record in Bepartment and was amply discussed in his recent consultation. 3. Wenjamin's remarks, if correctly interpretat, appear to be self-serving in that his firm has public relations contract with GCA, but/has told GCA it unwilling to be apologist for human rights violations. 4. Neeting with Videla has been fully reported in other messages. Te avoid being drawn into situations/which questions about his meeting with president

yidels sight be raised, schassader had already cancelled scheduled lunchems with Aerican Chamber and another businessmen's group this week. Ashassader considered and rejected proposal to issue transmot that AP report incorrect, in that it isovitably would effect further orgition as which manifester and a proposal to issue transmot that AP report incorrect, in that it isovitably would effect further orgition as which manifester and restrict that the regular properties of the proposal properties of the properties of the properties of the story, Abassader is extraorly could be a properties of the prope

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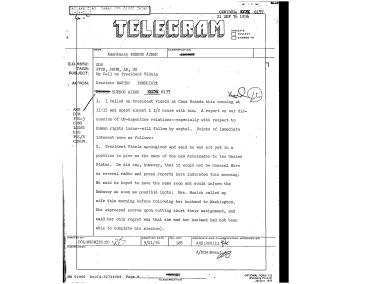
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3. Gwenda Mae Loken Case. I discussed the Loken case with President Videla, pointing out to him the extremely difficult conditions under which she is being held and the fact that she is pregnant. The President responded that Interior Minister has given instructions for the judicial process to be terminated quickly, i.e. for there to be a speedy trial and sentencing. When that is done, he assured me, she will be expelled from the country immediately under order of executive decree. 4. Patricia Erb Case. I also pressed the President for any news concerning Patricia Erb. The President said that GOA has not been able to find any trace of her and has no idea where she is. He promised, however, to stay in contact and to notify me immediately of any new developments in the case. He indicated that when she is found (if she is found) GOA will expel her from the country (and he implied that it would do so before any judicial process might be initiated). Classification NW 52968 DocId:32734684 Page 10

OPTIONAL FORM 153A (Foreignly F9-413A)